

Amendment to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A pole and base for holding an array of pre-aimed, high intensity light fixtures in an elevated position comprising:

a base comprising a single, elongated piece, a length of greater than about 8 feet and structural characteristics to support a pole and array of light fixtures thirty feet or higher above ground, and including a lower section comprising a majority of the length of the base adapted for insertion into the ground and an upper section adapted to extend above the ground when the base is inserted in the ground and having a taper of decreasing about 0.12 to 0.16 inch per foot from at or near a bottom of the upper section to at or near a top of the upper section;

a pole comprising a length of around 30 feet or greater, a relatively thin wall, and at least one structural characteristic different from the base, and adapted for mateable slip-fitting over at least a substantial portion of the upper section of the base, an upper end, a lower open end, and an interior bore extending axially and inwardly from the lower open end, the interior bore having an inside diameter and taper generally matching the outside diameter of the upper section of the base , the length of the pole being substantially longer than the length of the base;

one or more cross arms attached at or near the upper end;

an array of pre-aimed light fixtures mounted to said one or more cross arms;

one or more connection members adapted to connect the said one or more cross arms to the pole;
and

the upper section of the base adapted to position the lower open end of the pole, when slip-fitted onto the base, at least one foot above the ground but substantially nearer the ground than to the upper end of the pole when the pole is installed in operative position on the base and the lower section of the base is in operative position in the ground.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the base is made from concrete.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 2 wherein the base is made from hollowed concrete.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the base includes a cylindrically shaped lower portion.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the base includes a frusto-conically shaped upper section.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the upper section of the base is decreasingly tapered at 0.14 inches across the diameter of the base per foot in height from at or near a bottom of the upper section to at or near a top of the upper section.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the upper section of the base is a plurality of feet above ground.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein width and length of the base is related to required strength, height, and weight of the pole and structure attached to the pole .

Claim 11 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the pole is made from metal.

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the pole is hollow.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the pole is tapered along its entire length.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 13 wherein the pole has an elongated frusto-conical shape.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 13 wherein the taper is approximately 0.14 inches in diameter per foot of length.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the interior bore is slightly larger than the outside diameter of the upper section of the base .

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the slip fit between the base and pole locks the pole in place by resilient and frictional locking.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The pole and base of ~~Claim-claim~~ 1 wherein the pole comprises a plurality of pole sections , a lowermost pole section being slip fittable over the upper section of the base, additional pole sections slip fittable, in succession, sequentially on a preceding pole section .

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The pole and base of claim 1 wherein the pole includes a mounting upon which can be connected the array to be elevated.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The pole means of claim 1 further comprising openings in the base ~~means~~ and pole section ~~means~~ to allow access to the interior of the base ~~means~~ and pole ~~section means~~.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): A method of rigidly suspending an array of pre-aimed, high intensity light fixtures in an elevated position comprising the steps of:
~~forming an upper section in providing~~ a base comprising a single, elongated piece of a length of greater than about 8 feet[[,]] and structural characteristics to support a pole and array of light fixtures thirty feet or higher above ground, and the base including a lower section

comprising a majority of the length of the base which is adapted to be mounted in the ground and an upper section having a taper of decreasing about 0.12 to 0.16 inch per foot from at or near a bottom of the upper section to at or near a top of the upper section; positioning the upper section of the base above the ground when the base is mounted in the ground;

~~forming in a bottom portion of providing~~ a relatively thin walled pole comprising ~~a substantial portion of~~ a length of around 30 feet or greater and a structural characteristic different from the base, the pole including a bore mateably slip fittable over the upper section of the base, the length of the pole being substantially longer than the length of the base; attaching to the pole an array of pre-aimed light fixtures mounted on one or more cross arms; slip fitting the pole to the base so that the lower portion of the pole is at least one foot above but nearer the ground than the top of the pole when the pole is installed in operative position on the base.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 further comprising positioning a stop on one of the base and pole for determining the distance upon which the pole slip fits over the base.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the bore of the pole slips over the upper section of the base to mount the pole to the base .

Claim 24 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the upper section of the base is tapered and the bore in the pole is tapered to mateably match.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the base is made of reinforced concrete.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the pole is made of tubular metal.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 comprising the step of matching the diameters and lengths of the base and pole according to pre-determined, required strength, height, and weight of the pole and the array.

Claim 28 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the pole comprises one or more pole sections each having a bore in a bottom portion so that each pole section can be sequentially slip fit to a preceding pole section.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): The method of claim 21 wherein the pole comprises a first and a further pole section comprising the further step of slip fitting athe first pole section to the base ~~means~~, slip fitting anya further pole section to a preceding pole section to preassemble one or more pole sections and the base ~~means~~:

grasping the preassembled combination at approximately at or above the center of gravity; moving the base ~~means~~ into a previously excavated hole in the ground; bringing the preassembled combination to a generally upright position; adjusting the preassembled combination to plumb the preassembled combination; and

filling the excavated hole to secure the preassembled combination in the plumb position.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The method of claim 21 further comprising the steps of: moving the base to a pre-excavated hole in the ground; adjusting the base so that it is generally plumb; filling the remaining areas of the excavated hole with material to secure the base in the hole; and slip fitting said pole to the base .

Claim 31 (Currently amended): The method of claim 21 further comprising the steps of: moving the base to a pre-excavated hole in the ground;[[']] adjusting the base so that it is generally plumb; filling the remaining areas of the excavated hole with material to secure the base in the hole; and slip fitting a-the pole to the base .

Claim 32 (Currently amended): The method of claim 30 wherein the base ~~means~~ is moved to the excavated hole by fixing a carrying strap through a bore in the center of the base ~~means~~ and by a crane ~~means~~ lifting the base ~~means~~ and placing it into the excavated hole.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): The method of claim 30 wherein the step of moving the base ~~means~~ into the excavated hole comprises: forming a bore laterally through the base ~~means~~ generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the base ~~means~~; slidably inserting an elongated bar through the bore, the bar having opposite ends which extend outwardly on each side of the base ~~means~~;

grasping each end of the bar with a lifting and motive ~~means~~ device; and moving the base ~~means~~ over and into the excavated hole.

Claim 34 (Currently amended): The method of claim 33 wherein the bar allows the base ~~means~~ to swing freely in a first plane so that the gravitational pull on the base ~~means~~ plumbs the base ~~means~~ in that plane.

Claim 35 (Currently amended): The method of claim 34 further comprising first and second vertical ~~jack means each having a base jacks~~ which can be placed on the ground[[,]] and an upper end associated with the bar to raise and lower one side of the bar to level or plumb the base ~~means~~.

Claim 36 (Currently amended): The method of claim 35 wherein ~~the each jack means~~ comprises an upper end having a v shape to receive the bar.

Claim 37 (Currently amended): The method of claim 35 wherein ~~the each jack means~~ includes a vertically extending elongated member which slidably passes through a vertical bore in the bar ~~means~~.

Claim 38 (Currently amended): The method of claim 34 further comprising a second bar ~~means~~ extending through a bore laterally through and generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the base ~~means~~, second bar ~~means~~ being adaptable to receive a jack ~~means~~ at opposite ends to fix the base ~~means~~ in a plumb position.

Claim 39 (Currently amended): The method of claim 34 further comprising a second bar means extending through a bore generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of and laterally through the base means, and generally perpendicular to the first bore, the first and second bores having an intersection location whereby the diameter of the first and second bores overlap at least in part so that the second bar abuts against the first bar to provide a balance point for the base means, the balance point containing all the weight of the base means at generally a small abutment of curved surfaces of the first and second bars to provide a self plumbing device.

Claim 40 (Currently amended): The method of claim 34 further comprising a sleeve having an inside diameter greater than the outside diameter of the first bar and surrounding the first bar, the sleeve including generally at its mid-section generally coincident with the longitudinal axis of the base means one or more balance ~~notes~~-nodes extending inwardly towards the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and onto which the first bar would abut, the balance nodes providing generally most of the gravitational pull for the base means at that general location to provide a self plumbing means for the base means.

Claim 41 (Currently amended): The method of claim 30 wherein the base means is plumbed by utilizing a level-means.

Claim 42 (Currently amended): The method of claim 41 wherein the level means comprises an elongated level having first and second ends, one of said first and second ends having attached to it an extensive member, the extension member having a transfer link from the level means selected so that the angle formed between a line from the other of said ends of the level to the outer extended end of the extension member, in comparison with the edge of the level would be equal to the angle formed by a taper in the upper section of the base means.

Claims 43-45 (Cancelled)